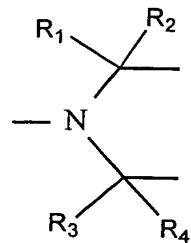


CLAIMS

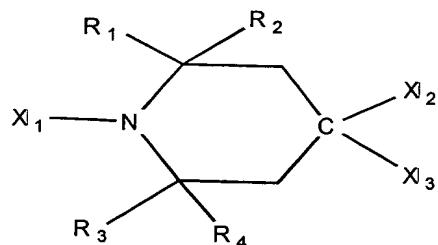
1. Method for stabilising the viscosity and/or the active chlorine content of liquid compositions containing alkali or alkaline-earth hypochlorites, 5 comprising the addition to said compositions of 0.001% to 5% by weight of compounds belonging to the class of hindered amines containing the group:



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub>, which may be the same or different, represent methyl or ethyl.

10 2. Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hindered amine has the general formula (I):

Formula I



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub>, which may be the same or different, represent 15 methyl or ethyl; X<sub>1</sub> represents H, methyl, ethyl, an oxygen atom, an -OH group or an OR<sub>5</sub> group, wherein R<sub>5</sub> represents linear or branched alkyl C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> or cyclohexyl; X<sub>2</sub> represents hydrogen and X<sub>3</sub> represents the groups -OH or -NHR<sub>5</sub>, wherein R<sub>5</sub> has the meaning described above; or X<sub>2</sub> and X<sub>3</sub>, taken together, represent an oxygen atom.

20 3. Method as claimed in claim 2, wherein groups R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> represent methyl.

4. Method as claimed in claim 2, wherein X<sub>1</sub> represents oxygen, X<sub>2</sub> is hydrogen, X<sub>3</sub> is OH, and groups R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> represent methyl.
5. Method as claimed in claim 2, wherein X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> represent hydrogen, X<sub>3</sub> represents -OH, and groups R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> represent methyl.
- 5 6. Method as claimed in claims 1-5, wherein liquid compositions containing active chlorine are thickened with soluble or water-dispersible polymers.
7. Method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the thickening polymers are homo- or co-polymers of acrylic acid.
- 10 8. Method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the thickening polymers are homo- or co-polymers of cross-linked acrylic acid.
9. Method as claimed in claims 1 to 5, wherein the amount of stabiliser is between 0.005% and 3% by weight.
10. Method as claimed in claims 1 to 5, wherein the active chlorine is 15 present in the amount of between 0.5% and 10% by weight of the liquid composition.
11. Method as claimed in claims 1 to 5, wherein the liquid compositions are detergent compositions for domestic and industrial cleaning and disinfection.
12. Method as claimed in claims 1 to 5, wherein the liquid compositions are 20 detergent compositions for domestic and industrial cleaning and disinfection containing chelating agents of metal ions present alone or in combination with one another.
13. Method as claimed in claims 1 to 5, wherein the liquid compositions are detergent compositions for domestic and industrial cleaning and disinfection 25 containing hypochlorite stabilisers, generally present alone or in combination with one another.
14. Liquid detergent compositions for domestic and industrial cleaning, stabilised as claimed in claims 1 to 13.

15. Mixtures of cross-linked or not cross-linked acrylic homo- or co-polymers comprising up to 50% by weight of hindered amines of formula I.